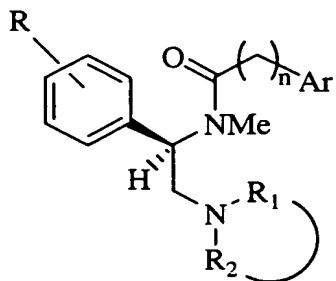


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of the formula IIIB or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



(III B)

wherein:

n is an integer from 1 to 3;

R_1 and R_2 are together alkylene of about 4 to about 8 carbons, optionally substituted with a group R' , where R' is selected from $-OH$, halogen, $-NR_aR_b$, in which R_a and R_b are independently selected from hydrogen, $-C(=O)R_c$, $-SO_2R_d$ and $-C(=O)(CH_2)_mCO_2R_e$, in which R_c and R_d are independently selected from alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl, R_e is hydrogen or alkyl and m is an integer from 1 to 3;

Ar is unsubstituted phenyl or mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra-substituted phenyl, wherein said substituents are independently selected from halogen; alkyl; alkoxy; aryloxy; aralkyloxy; alkylene dioxide; -OH; $-\text{SO}_2\text{R}_f$ in which R_f is alkyl or aryl; -CN; haloalkyl; $-\text{NR}_g\text{R}_h$, in which R_g and R_h are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}_f$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{N}(\text{R}_e)_2$, $-\text{S}(\text{O})_2\text{R}_f$, and $-(\text{CH}_2)_y-\text{CO}_2\text{R}_e$ in which y is an integer from 1 to 3; $-\text{S}(\text{O})_2\text{N}(\text{R}_i)(\text{R}_j)$, in which R_i and R_j are each independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl optionally substituted with $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}_e$, aryl and aralkyl; or R_i and R_j together form $-(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{X}(\text{CH}_2)_2-$, where X is a direct bond, $-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{NR}_e-$, S or O;

R is hydrogen, halogen, -OH, alkoxy, or $-NR_kR_l$, where R_k and R_l are independently selected from hydrogen and alkyl.

2. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein:

n is 1;

R₁ and R₂ are together unsubstituted alkylene of about 4 to about 6 carbons or alkylene of about 4 to about 6 carbons substituted with -OH or alkoxy;

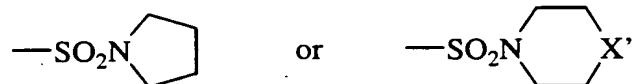
Ar is unsubstituted phenyl or mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra-substituted phenyl, wherein said substituents are independently selected from alkyl; alkoxy; aralkyloxy; alkylene dioxide; -OH; haloalkyl; -NR_gR_h, in which R_g and R_h are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, and -S(O)₂R_f; -S(O)₂N(R_i)(R_j), where R_i and R_j are each independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl optionally substituted with -CO₂R_e, and aralkyl; or R_i and R_j together form -(CH₂)₂X(CH₂)₂-, where X is a direct bond, -NR_e-, S or O; and

R is hydrogen, halogen, -OH or alkoxy.

3. A compound according to Claim 2 wherein:

R₁ and R₂ are together -(CH₂)₄- or -CH₂CH(OH)(CH₂)₂-;

Ar is unsubstituted phenyl or mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra-substituted phenyl, wherein said substituents are independently selected from lower alkyl; -OCH₃; -OCH₂C₆H₅; -OCH₂O; -OH; -CF₃; -N(SO₂CH₃)₂; -NHSO₂CH₃; -SO₂N(CH₃)₂; -SO₂N(CH₃)(CH₂CO₂H); -SO₂NHCH₃; -SO₂N(CH₃)(CH₂C₆H₅);



where X' is -N(CH₃)- or -O-.

4. A compound according to Claim 1, with the provisos that:

when n is 1, R₁ and R₂ are unsubstituted alkylene of 4 carbons, and R is H, then Ar is other than unsubstituted phenyl, 2-aminophenyl, 3-aminophenyl, 4-aminophenyl, 2-amino-4,5-dichlorophenyl, 3,4-dichlorophenyl, 2-amino-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-N(SO₂CH₃)₂-phenyl, 3-N(SO₂CH₃)₂-phenyl, 4-N(SO₂CH₃)₂-phenyl, 2-NHSO₂CH₃-phenyl, 3-NHSO₂CH₃-phenyl, 4-NHSO₂CH₃-phenyl, 2-N(SO₂CH₃)₂-4,5-dichlorophenyl, 2-N(SO₂CH₃)₂-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-NHSO₂CH₃-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-SO₂CH₃-phenyl, 2-methoxyphenyl, 2-hydroxyphenyl, 2-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, 2-NHSO₂CH₃-4,5-dichlorophenyl, 2-NHCH₂CO₂H-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-NH(SO₂C₆H₅)-phenyl, 3-SO₂NHCH₃-4-chlorophenyl, 3-SO₂NH₂-4-chlorophenyl, 3-SO₂NHCH₃-4-fluorophenyl, 4-SO₂NHCH₃-

phenyl, 3-SO₂NHCH₃-phenyl, 2-SO₂NHCH₃-phenyl, 2-SO₂NHCH₃-4-bromophenyl, 2-methoxy-3-SO₂NHCH₃-phenyl, 4-methoxy-3-SO₂NHCH₃-phenyl, 2-N(CH₂CO₂H)₂-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3,4-dihydroxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 2-SO₂N(CH₃)CH₂C₆H₅-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl, 2-SO₂N(CH₃)CH₂CO₂H-3,4-dimethoxyphenol, 2-fluorophenyl, or 4-fluorophenyl;

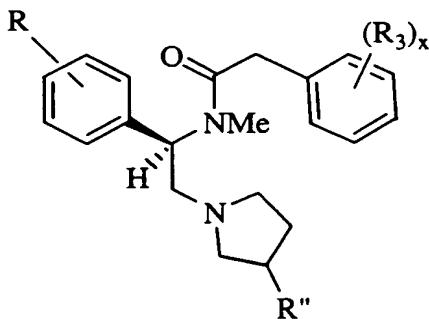
when n is 1, R₁ and R₂ are unsubstituted alkylene of 4 carbons, and R is NH₂, then Ar is other than 3,4-dichlorophenyl, 2-aminophenyl or 4-N(SO₂CH₃)₂-phenyl;

when n is 1, R₁ and R₂ are -CH₂CH(OH)(CH₂)₂-, and R is hydrogen, then Ar is other than 2-amino-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, aminophenyl, 4-SO₂CH₃-phenyl, 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, 2-SO₂NHCH₃-phenyl, trifluoromethylphenyl, methylphenyl, halophenyl, methoxyphenyl, unsubstituted phenyl, 3-chloro-4-hydroxyphenyl, 4-benzyloxyphenyl, hydroxyphenyl, aminochlorophenyl, aminobromophenyl, acetamidophenyl, methylsulfonylaminophenyl, formamidophenyl or 3-amino-4-methoxyphenyl;

when n is 1, R₁ and R₂ are -CH₂CH(OH)(CH₂)₂-, and R is hydroxy or amino, then Ar is other than trifluoromethylphenyl; and

when n is 1, R₁ and R₂ are unsubstituted alkylene of 4 carbons, and R is OH or OCH₃, then Ar is other than 2-NHSO₂CH₃-phenyl, 4-trifluoromethyl or 3,4-dichlorophenyl.

5. A compound of the formula III B-i or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



(III B-i)

wherein:

x is an integer from 0 to 4;

R'' is hydrogen, fluoro, -OH, -NHC(=O)R_c, -NHSO₂R_d and -NHC(=O)(CH₂)_mCO₂R_e, in which R_c and R_d are independently selected from alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl, R_e is hydrogen or alkyl and m is an integer from 1 to 3

R₃ is independently selected from halogen; alkyl; alkoxy; aryloxy; aralkyloxy; alkylene dioxide; -OH; -SO₂R_f in which R_f is alkyl or aryl; -CN; haloalkyl; -NR_gR_h, in which R_g and R_h are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, -C(=O)R_f, -C(=O)-N(R_e)₂, -S(O)₂R_f in which R_f is alkyl or aryl, and -(CH₂)_y-CO₂R_e in which y is an integer from 1 to 3; -S(O)₂N(R_i)(R_j), in which R_i and R_j are each independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl optionally substituted with -CO₂R_e, aryl and aralkyl; or R_i and R_j together form -(CH₂)₂X(CH₂)₂-, where X is a direct bond, -CH₂-, -NR_e-, S or O;

R is hydrogen, halogen, -OH, alkoxy, or -NR_kR_l, where R_k and R_l are independently selected from hydrogen and alkyl.

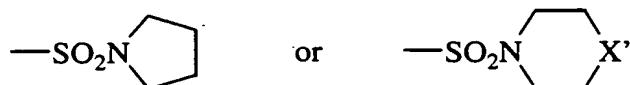
6. A compound according to Claim 5 wherein:

R₃ is independently selected from alkyl; alkoxy; aralkyloxy; alkylene dioxide; -OH; haloalkyl; -NR_gR_h, in which R_g and R_h are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, and -S(O)₂R_f; -S(O)₂N(R_i)(R_j), in which R_i and R_j are each independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl optionally substituted with -CO₂R_e, and aralkyl; or R_i and R_j together form -(CH₂)₂X(CH₂)₂-, where X is a direct bond, -NR_e-, S or O;

R is hydrogen, halogen, -OH or alkoxy.

7. A compound according to Claim 6 wherein:

R₃ is independently selected from lower alkyl; -OCH₃; -OCH₂C₆H₅; -OCH₂O-; -OH; CF₃; -N(SO₂CH₃)₂; -NHSO₂CH₃; -SO₂N(CH₃)₂; -SO₂N(CH₃)(CH₂CO₂H); -SO₂NHCH₃; -SO₂N(CH₃)(CH₂C₆H₅);



where X' is -N(CH₃)- or -O-.

8. A compound according to Claim 5 wherein substituent R'' is in the S configuration.

9. A compound according to Claim 5 with the provisos that:

when R and R" are H, then the phenyl ring and (R₃)_x together are other than unsubstituted phenyl, 2-aminophenyl, 3-aminophenyl, 4-aminophenyl, 2-N(SO₂CH₃)₂-phenyl, 3-N(SO₂CH₃)₂-phenyl 4-N(SO₂CH₃)₂-phenyl, 2-NHSO₂CH₃-phenyl, 3-NHSO₂CH₃-phenyl, 4-NHSO₂CH₃-phenyl, 4-SO₂CH₃-phenyl, 2-methoxyphenyl, 2-hydroxyphenyl, 2-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-SO₂NHCH₃-phenyl, 2-SO₂NHCH₃-phenyl, 4-SO₂NHCH₃-phenyl, 2-fluorophenyl, 4-fluorophenyl, 3,4-dichlorophenyl, 2-amino-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-N(SO₂CH₃)₂-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-NHSO₂CH₃-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-NHCH₂CO₂H-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-SO₂NHCH₃-4-chlorophenyl, 3-SO₂NH₂-4-chlorophenyl, 3-SO₂NHCH₃-4-fluorophenyl, 2-SO₂NHCH₃-4-bromophenyl, 2-methoxy-3-SO₂NHCH₃-phenyl, 4-methoxy-3-SO₂NHCH₃-phenyl, 2-N(CH₂CO₂H)₂-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3,4-dihydroxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 2-amino-4,5-dichlorophenyl, 2-N(SO₂CH₃)₂-4,5-dichlorophenyl, 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, 2-NHSO₂CH₃-4,5-dichlorophenyl, or 2-SO₂N(CH₃)CH₂C₆H₅-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl, 2-SO₂N(CH₃)CH₂CO₂H-3,4-dimethoxyphenol;

when R" is H and R is NH₂, then the phenyl ring and (R₃)_x together are other than 3,4-dichlorophenyl, 2-aminophenyl or 4-N(SO₂CH₃)₂-phenyl;

when R" is OH, and R is hydrogen, then the phenyl ring and (R₃)_x together are other than unsubstituted phenyl, 2-amino-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, aminophenyl, 4-SO₂CH₃-phenyl, 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, 2-SO₂NHCH₃-phenyl, trifluoromethylphenyl, methylphenyl, halophenyl, methoxyphenyl, 3-chloro-4-hydroxyphenyl, 4-benzyloxyphenyl, hydroxyphenyl, aminochlorophenyl, aminobromophenyl, acetamidophenyl, methylsulfonylaminophenyl, formamidophenyl or 3-amino-4-methoxyphenyl

when R" is OH and R is hydroxy or amino, then the phenyl ring and (R₃)_x together are other than trifluoromethylphenyl; and

when R" is H and R is OH or OCH₃, then the phenyl ring and (R₃)_x together are other than 2-NHSO₂CH₃-phenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl or 3,4-dichlorophenyl.

10. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

2-(3-N-Methylsulfonamido-3-amino-4-methoxyphenyl)-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]acetamide methane sulfonate;

2-(3-N-Methylsulfonamido-3-amino-4-benzyloxyphenyl)-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]acetamide;

2-(3-N-Methylsulfonamido-3-amino-4-hydroxyphenyl)-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]acetamide;

2-(2-N-Methylsulfonamido-2-aminophenyl)-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(3S)-(3-hydroxypyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-(2-N-Methylsulfonamido-2-amino-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(3S)-(3-hydroxypyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-(3-N-Methylsulfonamido-3-amino-4-methoxyphenyl)-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(3S)-(3-hydroxypyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-(2-N-Methylsulfonamido-2-aminophenyl)-N-methyl-N-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]acetamide;

(R,S)-2-(2-N-Methylsulfonamido-2-aminophenyl)-N-methyl-N-1-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]acetamide;

(S)-2-(2-N-Methylsulfonamido-2-aminophenyl)-N-methyl-N-1-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]acetamide;

2-(3-N-Bis-methylsulfonamido-3-amino-4-hydroxyphenyl)-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]acetamide;

2-[2-(N-Benzyl-N-methylsulfamoyl)-4,5-methylenedioxophenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-[2-(N-Dimethylsulfamoyl)-4,5-methylenedioxophenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-[2-(N-Dimethylsulfamoyl)-4,5-methylenedioxophenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(3S)-(3-hydroxypyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-[2-(N-Pyrrolidinesulfamoyl)-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-[2-(N-Pyrrolidinesulfamoyl)-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(3S)-(3-hydroxypyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-[2-(N-Dimethylsulfamoyl)-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-[2-(N-Dimethylsulfamoyl)-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(3S)-(3-hydroxypyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-[2-[N-(4-Methylpiperazine)]sulfamoyl)-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-[2-[N-(4-Methylpiperazine)]sulfamoyl]-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(3S)-(3-hydroxypyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-[2-N-(Morpholinesulfamoyl)-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-[2-N-(Morpholinesulfamoyl)-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(3S)-(3-hydroxypyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

N-Methyl-[[2-(N-sulfamoyl)-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamido]glycine;

2-[2-(N-Pyrrolidinesulfamoyl)-3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-[2-(N-t-Butylsulfamoyl)-3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-[2-(N-Methylsulfamoyl)-4-methoxyphenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-[4-N-(Methylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(3S)-(3-hydroxypyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

2-[2-(N-Methylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-N-methyl-N-[1-(2-fluorophenyl-2-[1-(pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide; and

2-[2-(N-Benzyl-N-methylsulfamoyl)-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. A compound according to Claim 10 which is selected from the group consisting of 2-[2-(N-Methylsulfamoyl)-4-methoxyphenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide; and

(S)-2-(2-N-Methylsulfonamido-2-aminophenyl)-N-methyl-N-1-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]acetamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. A compound according to Claim 11 which is 2-[2-(N-Methylsulfamoyl)-4-methoxyphenyl]-N-methyl-N-[(1S)-1-phenyl-2-[1-(pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]]acetamide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. A compound according to Claim 11 which is (S)-2-(2-N-Methylsulfonamido-2-aminophenyl)-N-methyl-N-1-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]acetamide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 5 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

16. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 10 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

17. A method of treating hyperalgesia in a patient comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1.

18. A method of treating hyperalgesia in a patient comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 5.

19. A method of treating hyperalgesia in a patient comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 10.